

Prairie View A&M University

Digital Commons @PVAMU

PV Panther Newspapers

Publications

3-2-2005

Panther - March 2005

Prairie View A&M University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pv-panther-newspapers>

THE PANTHER



THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

March 2, 2005

Volume 83, issue 20

panther@pvamu.edu

University sheds more light on tuition increase

By DeTorsha Brunson and
Alanna Jones
Panther Staff

Executive vice president and chief financial officer Dan Williams fears that Prairie View A&M University may be forced to raise tuition another \$27.50 on the already proposed

tuition increase of \$17.00 in fall 2005 if the Texas legislature does not provide the university with \$4.2 million.

Williams explains that the tuition increase that will occur in fall of 2005 goes back to a commitment the legislature made to not only PVAMU, but to TSU as well.

"In 2001 the legislature approved the construction of three new buildings which include the Architecture, Electrical Engineering, and Juvenile Justice and Psychology buildings, as well as repairing chilled water lines to Hobart Taylor through the Texas Commitment to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR)

priority plan settlement."

Due to other priorities in public schools across Texas, the legislature may not be able to fund PV with the \$4.2 million promised in 2001.

Williams says the \$17.00 fee increase that is already planned to take place is designated for faculty pay

raises, the hiring of new faculty, and the improvement of classrooms/ classroom furniture. In order to keep money within institutional enhancement programs such as scholarships/ financial aid,

See Raise page 16

Despite rain, Pantherland Day is huge success

By Erika Green
Panther Staff

Serving as Prairie View's Black History Month activity and the university's open house, Pantherland Day showcased the campus to more than 3,500 high school students, their parents, and teachers. The event held last Saturday was sponsored by the Office of Recruitment. It was jointly organized by Murphy Crawford, director of recruitment and Gwendolyn Owens, recruiter. Owens and Chris Dudley served as the event's mistress and master of ceremony.

"This activity is the

school's opportunity to showcase the university academically, physically, and all of its extracurricular areas," said Crawford.

Pantherland Day consisted of presentations on scholarships, THEA, admissions, housing, academic programs, a college fair, mini step show, and dynamic performances by Prairie View's Marching Storm band, and Clifton J. Ozen High School choir of Beaumont. All colleges and departments on campus provided information on their respective areas. This year a financial aid seminar

See Recruitment page 16



Photo by Marques Allen

Shandon Neal, assistant general manager at the University College, talks to parents about housing facilities for freshmen at Pantherland Day. Over 3,000 high school students attended the event.

Campus



Jackson attempts to take lead for teachers' pension.

Page 2

Sports



Changes in new gym attract more students.

Page 7

Arts & Entertainment



Hitch: The cure for the common romantic comedy.

Page 13

INDEX

News	2
Viewpoints	4
Sports	7
In the Spirit	10
Lifestyles/Health	13
Arts/Entertainment	14
Calendar/Events	15

www.pvpanther.com

(936) 857-2132

(936) 857-2340 (fax)

P.O. Box 2876

Prairie View, TX 77446

Spring 2005 SGA Elections

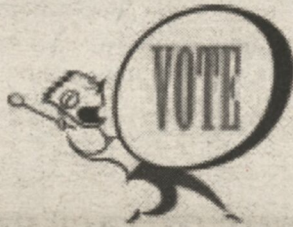
March 3- There will be a mandatory meeting of candidates at 5:30 p.m. in the Senate Chambers of the MSC. Each applicant must be present and on time.

March 14- There will be a "Meet the Candidates" forum at 6:30 p.m. the location is to be announced.

March 28- The Presidential and Vice Presidential debates will be held at 7 p.m. in the NSCI building room A101.

April 5- The official elections will take place from 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.

If there are any questions please contact:
JaWana Green, elections chair, at jawana_g@yahoo.com



PV CHOICE AWARDS

The Prairie View Choice Awards will be held April 25, in the Memorial Student Center Auditorium.

The Choice Awards program is designed to recognize the contributions of the students' and staff's overall academics, cultural, personal, and professional development at the university.

The award show provides another activity that involves the students in all facets of its development

and implementation. It also helps educate the students about the nominations, voting, and election process.

Nominations will take place March 14-18.

Elections will take place March 21-25.

The Choice Awards are sponsored by

SGA. There are 35 categories.

For more information on how to become a part of the PV Choice Awards, contact the SGA office at x2220, or come to the office, Rm.223 MSC.



Jackson attempts to take lead of teachers' pension

By Matthew Jackson
Panther Staff

Recently there has been a fight over a position on the Teacher Retirement System Higher Education Board (TRS).

The TRS board is made up of nine members, four of whom are nominated by higher education employees and retirees. Among all candidates vying for the position, the governor will appoint a board member from among the top three winners. Candidates for the ballot include Philip Mulins, Judy Mayfield, and Prairie View alumnus Frank Jackson.

"The employees' union, a union of all teachers in Texas, wanted a voice in there, so they asked me to be one of their candidates to voice their concerns about our retirement plan," says Frank Jackson, the government relations officer at PV, who is also a member of the Texas State Employees Union (TSEU).

In order to receive

votes, candidates must first be placed on the ballot and Jackson's bid to obtain a spot on the ballot has hit a road block.

Recently, TSEU activists conducted a state-wide grass root campaign to obtain signatures



Frank Jackson

in support of Jackson's bid to be on the ballot. 1,887 signatures were collected from employees of 19 institutions of higher education and submitted to the Teachers Retirement System Board. Even more than the required number of signatures were collected and Jackson was still barred from the ballot.

"They said that we didn't have enough signatures," said Jackson. "The union went to all of the colleges and a lot of other state agencies that participated and asked the employees to sign the petition but when they reviewed the petition, they said that some of those they couldn't verify."

The TRS board currently oversees a pension that is valued at over 84.2 billion dollars in funds, much of which belongs to state teachers and employees who are preparing to retire. Jackson wants to make sure that the money is handled correctly, which is why he is so passionate about obtaining a seat on the board.

As Jackson put it, "It sends a signal to the state that we want a voice in how our retirement funds are held, because that is our future."



CLICK TO PVPANTHER.COM FOR
ALL OF THE LATEST NEWS, INFO,
AND PICS ON 'THE HILL.'



THE PANTHER

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Editor in Chief: Christina Johnson

Managing Editor: Denise Cohen

Sports Editor: Rashad Morgan

L&H and A&E Editor: Nneka Meka

Purple and Gold Polls: Andrea Starr
Photographers: Arthrayia Love
Interns: Katriska Cotton
William Quickley
Anterria Brown

Copy Editors: Crystal Chatman
Alanna Jones

Ad/ Business Manager: Kayla Barnett
Flag: Aaron Griffin

Graphics Editor: Otis Clayborne II
Photo/Online Editor: Marques Allen

The Panther is a publication supported through advertising and student activity fees. Views expressed within the publication are not necessarily those shared by Prairie View A&M University or the Texas A&M University Board of Regents. All articles, photographs, and graphics are property of The Panther.

PV Weather

March 3-March 8



Wednesday
Few Showers
High: 66°
Low: 53°



Friday
Cloudy
High: 62°
Low: 46°



Sunday
Partly Cloudy
High: 67°
Low: 43°



Monday
Partly Cloudy
High: 73°
Low: 52°



Thursday
Few Showers
High: 64°
Low: 47°



Saturday
Partly Cloudy
High: 61°
Low: 49°



Tuesday
Mostly Sunny
High: 73°
Low: 54°

African Student Association brings Black History Month to an end

By Chelsea Johnson
Panther Staff

Last week the African Student Association celebrated African Week in an effort to educate PV students about different African cultures, showcase what the group has to offer, and attempt to help bridge the gap between native Africans and African Americans.

The ASA became an official club in the spring of 2004, but it is growing in membership at a rapid rate. The ASA's members come from all parts of Africa and the West Indies. Though most of the members are of African descent, the association accepts any students who want to join the club. ASA's president, Paul Frank, made it clear that "anyone who is interested in the club and learning about different

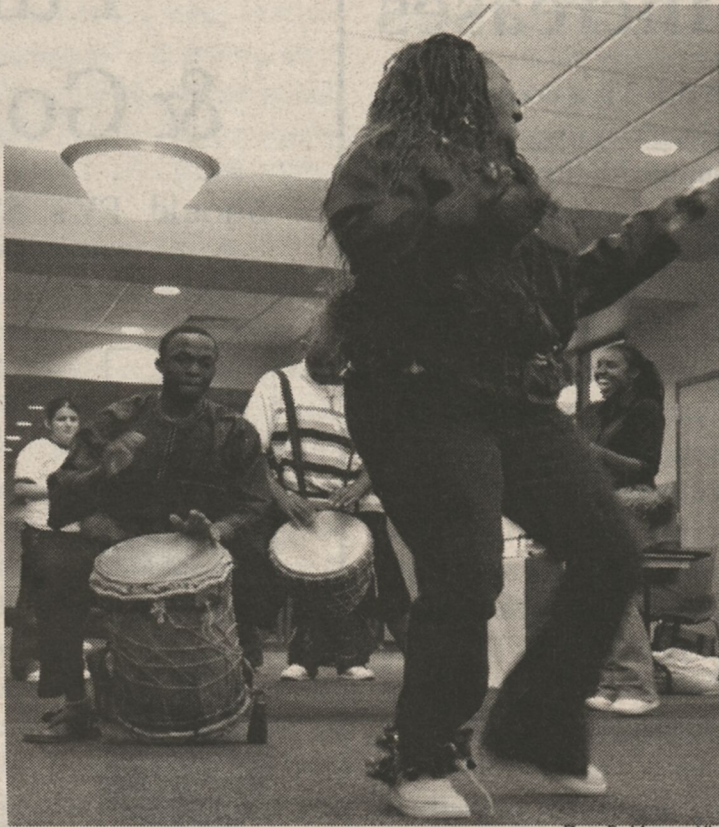


Photo By Marques Allen

Students take part in the African Student Association's cultural workshop and showcase last Wednesday in the MSC.

show filled with poetry and drama. Also during the week's festivities there was a cultural workshop held where countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and the Ivory Coast showcased their native jewelry, clothing, and food.

Although each of these countries has its own languages and traditions that separate them, they all came together to show the African culture as a whole. The members

danced, played drums, and did native calls together as our ancestors did 1,000 years ago. They not only showed off their separate countries but solidarity with one another.

The ASA's mission is to create a sense of community among students on campus. Velvet Fitzpatrick, the club's treasurer states that the "ASA is working to fight prejudices and help Prairie View produce productive people."

Congratulations to the ladies of: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

for winning 8 awards at the Southern Region Undergraduate Leadership Retreat at Xavier University in Baton Rouge, LA.

First Place: Largest Chapter pre-registered
Regional Scholarship: Benita Hodge

Highest G.P.A. Individual: Mfon Isong, Udak Isong, and Benita Hodge

Second Place: Highest G.P.A. (group)

First Place: Largest Intake

First Place: Chapter Membership

First Place: Capital Campaign Recognition

First Place: Regional Water Well Contributions



cultures is welcome to join Africans and non-Africans alike."

To kick the week off the club had a cake cutting in the MSC, a movie night where the popular African movie titled "The Power of One" was shown, and a

Miss Prairie View to participate in the first SWAC Pageant

Panther News Service

Christie Cummings, Miss Prairie View 2004-2005, will participate in the First Annual Southwestern Athletic Conference Pageant, hosted in Birmingham, Ala., March 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Cummings will be performing her rendition of *Home from The Wiz*.

The winner of the SWAC Pageant will be awarded a scholarship and other prizes. The winner will make appearances throughout the year, serving as an ambassador for the SWAC.

The Southwestern Athletic Conference has partnered with women Achieving Victory through Excellence (W.A.V.E., Inc.) to sponsor the event. W.A.V.E., Inc. is a

non-profit organization that provides scholarship assistance and personal and professional development among young minority women by



Christie Cummings

encouraging them to tap into their creative abilities and other talents.

The SWAC is comprised of 10 historically black colleges and universities across Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. With 18 men's and women's sports, the SWAC is a NCAA Division 1 Conference.

Track scholarship fund set up in honor of Jacket, Wright

By Alanna Jones
Panther Staff

Current and incoming track athletes will soon be able to take advantage of the new Barbara J. Jacket and Hoover J. Wright Scholarship Fund to help defray the costs of education at PVAMU.

Carol V. Kellum, vice chair and corresponding secretary, in her letter introducing this scholarship, asks "What better way can PV honor and perpetuate the life of PV's former track and field coaches than to begin a scholarship to assist worthy young athletes?"

This scholarship is necessary to keep the momentum of PV's track and field department steady and strong, but "the scholarship is

not being implemented to pay for the entire tuition of the athlete, but to aid in the costs of books and other expenses that come with an education," states Kellum.

In PV's attempts to grow as a whole, this scholarship is expected to aid in that growth through the Athletic Department. "This effort will be one that we can all be a part of and it can serve as a legacy for future athletes for generations to come," explains Kellum.

Efforts to collect money for the scholarship will begin Thursday, March 24 at 7 p.m. in the MSC Ballroom. Tickets are available for a \$40 donation. Yearly pledges are also needed to keep the success of the scholarship strong in years to come.

Sigma Tau Delta inducts 8

By DeTorsha

Brunson

Panther Staff

Eight students were inducted into the Sigma Tau Delta honor society in a ceremony held March 1 in Hilliard Hall.

"This is an international English honor society into which we have inducted eight new members,"

said Dr. Diljit K. Chatha. "Members must have a 3.0 grade point average in English, but in one case we had a student with a 4.0 in English and we recognized her for her excellence."

Sigma Tau Delta is an honor society for students in English language and literature. It has over 600 chapters and inducts 7,000 members annually.

Panthers storm the Texas state capital to fight tuition increases

On Sunday, Feb. 28, dedicated constituents of Prairie View A&M University delivered message to the legislative hierarchy at the Capitol in Austin, Texas. The main goal of this trip was to fight for certain rights for our students pertaining to new laws legislators are attempting to enact or funds they are attempting to withhold. You would be surprised as to what Prairie View might be forced to adopt if points are not addressed quickly. This is our duty and concern now and forever as Panthers and we must be vigilant in obtaining our goals as we see fit for Prairie View to grow. Members of the SGA, faculty, and apprehensive students were present so see that the point was made clear. We will not be taken advantage of and are entitled to fair rights and equal privileges.

On Monday morn-

ing, everyone checked out of their hotel rooms eager to discuss the topics on the agenda. Entering the capitol, we soon gathered with "proud" members of our esteemed alumni in a reception room on the north wing of the Capitol. This was a very moving experience for any student that would have attended. There were almost 20 alumni who introduced themselves, and honestly, it was one of the most heartfelt experiences and almost brought a tear to your eye. Each alumnus/a is history and their emphatic speech could do nothing other than instill pride and passion for your purple and gold. One woman for instance was the first black woman to receive a bachelor's in engineering at Prairie View not to mention all the other blacks who made a name and paved the way for future graduates. Mind you,

Prairie View does still have a long way to go to increase our credibility in the work force and to be taken seriously by predominantly white institutions.

Sitting in on the House and the Senate Chambers, several points were made on the floor for the Texas legislature to recognize Prairie View A&M University as a significant institution of higher education not only in Texas but for the nation. Feb. 28 was declared Alumni Day at the Capitol. This day could be very beneficial annually if utilized to reunite and re-address issues concerning Prairie View.

Another bill recognized PV's ROTC program and its contributions. It was the very first Naval R.O.T.C. program established at an H.B.C.U. And from this stellar program it produced

See Capital page 5

Handwritings On The Wall

"The less said is the best said."

Cicely C. Williams

What's your motto to live by?

Email your
"Handwriting on the Wall"
to panther@pvamu.edu

F.A.S. spotlight



Yolanda Kesse

Position: Administrative Assistant

Spouse/Children: Not married; Raising nephew

Hometown: Sealy, Texas

Favorite Food: Seafood

Favorite Color: Blue

Night or Day Person: Day Person

Cannot live without: The Word of God

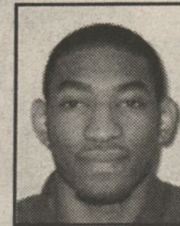
Advice for freshmen: Shoot toward the sky

Advice for seniors: Don't quit and overcome your obstacles

Who you admire most: My Pparents

Purple & Gold Poll

Should PV's Spring Break be the same as all HBCUs?



"Yes. We should be out around the same time as our friends at other universities and local colleges."

Michael Dickens II
Sophomore
Business/Marketing



"It should be the same as its fellow HBCUs in the surrounding area."

ToriShelli Patterson
Senior
Management



"I think it should. What's the purpose of us getting out while everyone else is in school."

Richard Wells
Freshman
English

By Katie Morrisette



S.G.A. Speaks Out

Hello Panthers! The Student Government is doing everything to keep your concerns our number one priority.

The Texas A&M University System Chancellor, Bob McTeer, will tour the campus of PVAMU, Friday, Mar. 4th, at 12 p.m. The Marching Storm will do an encore of their performance in Atlanta for the chancellor and his committee.

SGA wants to wish everyone good luck on their midterms this week. Furthermore, we hope that everyone has a SAFE Spring Break.

"You can kill a man, but you can't kill an idea."
- Medgar Evers

Capital from page 4

an Admiral who designed the first attack submarine for the U.S. Navy, and also the highest ranking African American in the Navy. We should remember the dedication and leadership from which these soldiers kept our freedoms.

Highly anticipated, students and staff were eager to approach legislative representatives in attempt to persuade them to either oppose or support new bills and/or programs. Participants who must not go without being commending are Nigel Redmond, Corey Neblett, Frank Jackson, George Wright, and others fighting for PV's equality and fairness. House Bill 19 asks that students pay time and a half if they do not graduate in the allotted time of four years.

Obviously, many of us do not receive our diploma in four years, which will consequently affect a majority. This is a plan set out to filter those which do not belong in college, mainly our black population. Let's be honest, we know many attend PV on false pretenses, for example, to receive a large sum of overpayment just to be spent frivolously and on trivial items. Not to take away from the major, some major in certain fields with intention to get through with minimal amount of effort.

A more diverse university would be nice to see but yet, we must stay true and not forget our history and why Prairie View was founded. Senator

Rodney Ellis said, "Prairie View is a gateway of success for all religious backgrounds and races to move forward." Representative Jesse Jones, whose grandson attends the university, says "It is a black Mecca for higher education and holds much history."

House Bill 1409 comments on the Board of Regents power to change Prairie View A&M's name and has been under consideration for a while. H.B. 1409 extends us beyond the reach of their power in that aspect and enables us to be put on a list, which includes Tarleton, exempting us from a name change. If PV were to endure name change, many of us would be devastated. It would lower the morale of many students and disregard much history in the process.

An effort is being made to raise tuition and fees. We are being asked to foot the bill for many new buildings under construction, possibly a new Solar Observatory, and a family development center to replace Jones Elementary. Many object to these projects with very little justification besides being cheap and not wanting to pay anymore than students have to. When it comes to these issues, we have to evaluate what our future plans are for PV. I hear quite frequently, being guilty myself in the past, that we would not dare send our children to this school or recommend it to anyone for that matter. If we take responsibility now, by the time our children are in college, Prairie View would stand with

undoubted presence and unparalleled.

If anything has passed that students do not agree with, many are going to be quick to complain and gripe. Sadly, few will be the ones who attempted to impede these bills and programs. To be honest, you have no room to complain if you are not part of the solution or rectifying thereof. We must attack those who want to see us fail at the jugular to

get events accomplished concerning policies with the university. This means we as a culture must start playing an intricate part in politics, and demand reasonable reform so that we are never again to regress as a society. Stop by the S.G.A. office and ask for these resolutions so that your are not to blame when we receive the wrong end of the deal.

David Mc Quiller

*Wishing everyone
goodluck
on midterms.*

*Have a Safe
Spring Break!*

From:

THE
PANTHER
THE OFFICIAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Have comments and concerns? Send your opinions and commentary to **The Panther** at panther@pvamu.edu or online at www.pvpanther.com

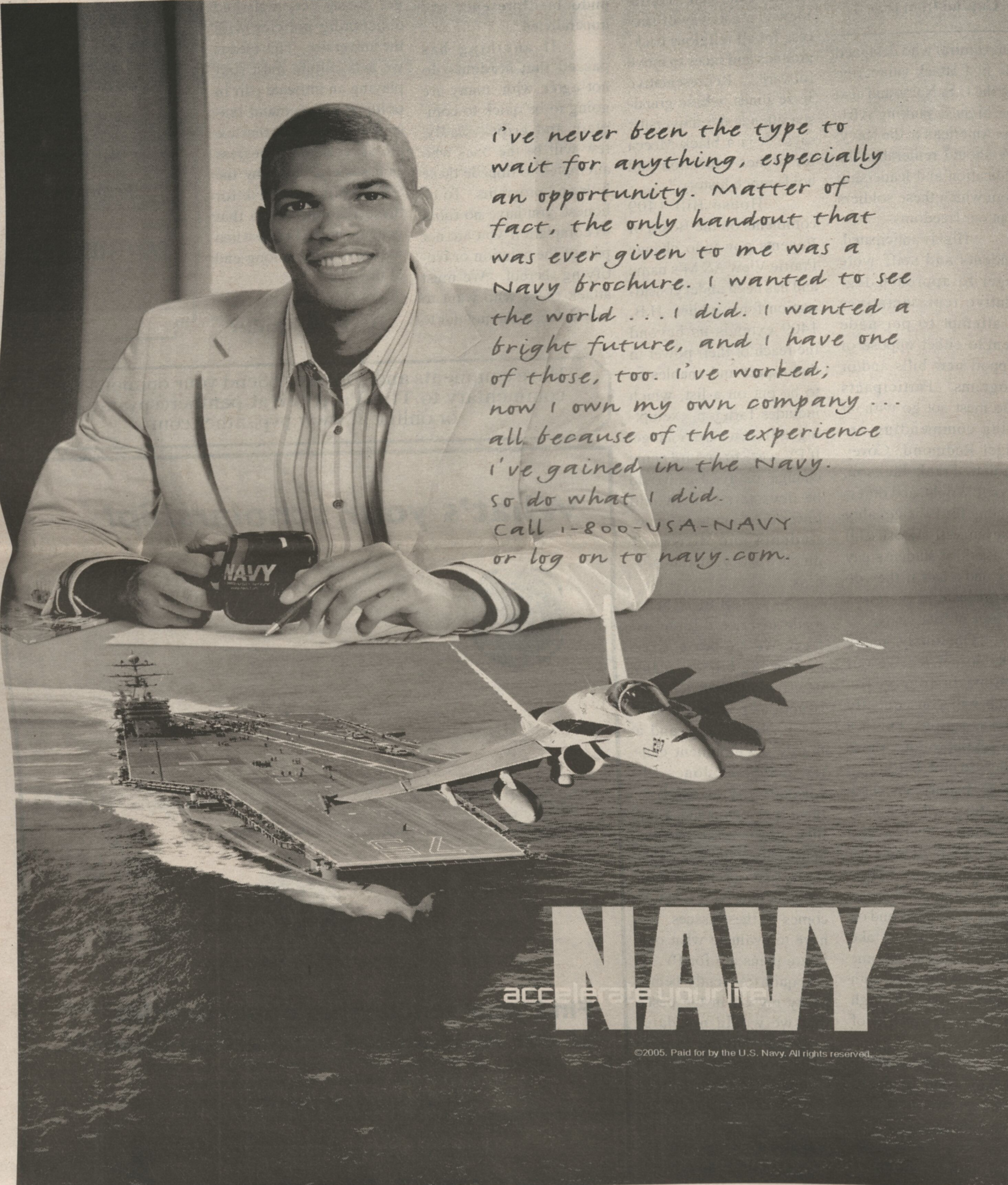
What's your scholarship?



**Find your scholarship opportunities
at our re-launched Scholarship Channel.**

Visit www.pvpanther.com

March 2, 2005



i've never been the type to wait for anything, especially an opportunity. Matter of fact, the only handout that was ever given to me was a Navy brochure. I wanted to see the world ... I did. I wanted a bright future, and I have one of those, too. I've worked; now I own my own company ... all because of the experience i've gained in the Navy. So do what I did. Call 1-800-USA-NAVY or log on to navy.com.

NAVY
accelerate your life

©2005. Paid for by the U.S. Navy. All rights reserved.

Changes in new gym, Babydome attract more students

By Lori Mason
Panther Staff

About a year ago, students were very excited about all of the changes on campus especially in the new gymnasium.

Thanks to former SGA president Hendrick Maison, James Tompkins, Raymond Burgess, and new department head of Health and Human Performance Dr. Marsha Wilson, there will be even more changes made in the new gymnasium to further accomodate the students.

The pool area of the new gym is now open and is used regularly for classes. In the summer, the pool will be open for all students to utilize.

Racketball court seven will eventually, it will be changed to a cardiovascular room with a television, DVD and VHS player available to students.

The gymnasium will operate seven days a week instead of the current five. Facility coordinator James Tompkins said "this incentive is to give students something else to do on Sundays."

The Health and Human Performance team has been busy at work trying to renovate the new gym and the Baby Dome to give back to the students.

SGA helped produce the funds to allow this project to take place.

Soon the additon of a computer lab and a physiology lab will be completed."

To get all of the things open for student use, we will need continuous support from SGA and the students here on campus," says Tompkins.

To keep students safe and to monitor all of the traffic in and out of the new gym, a card swipe machine

will be put into effect.

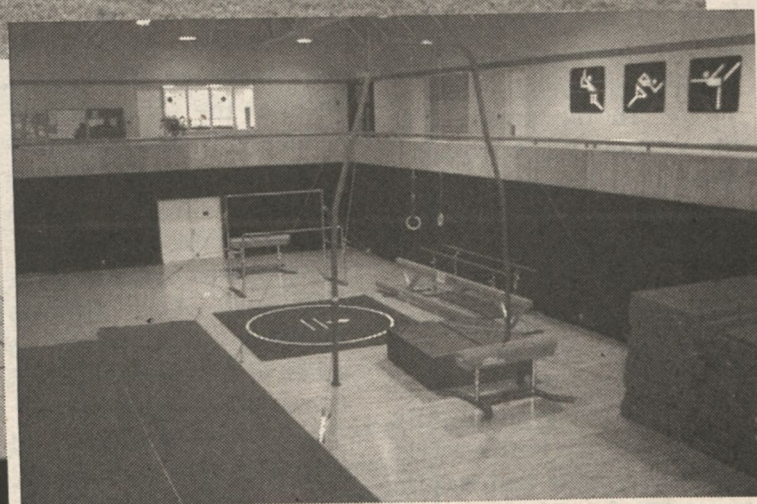
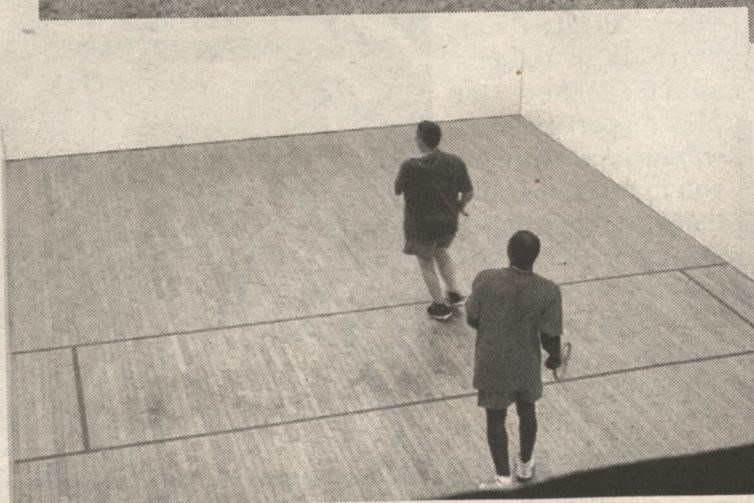
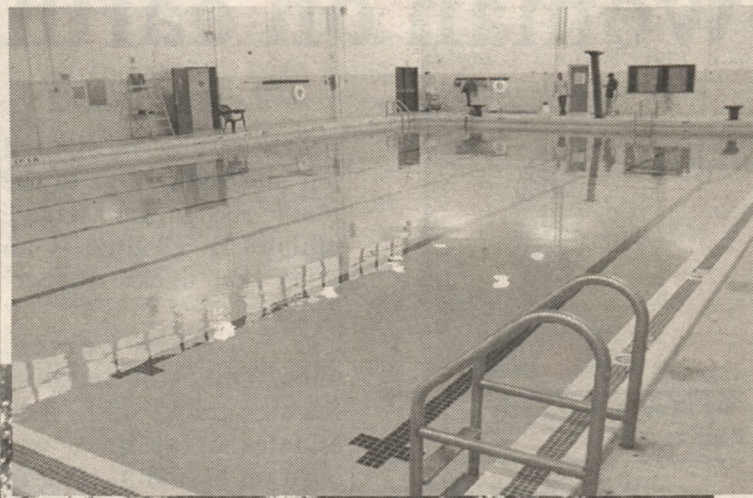
Not only will there be changes in the new gym, renovations are coming soon for the Baby Dome.

There are plans to take down the wall in room 117 and make it a new weight room. Tompkins says that he plans to get "Cadillac weights"

which are pretty expensive weights so that our students can have the very best.

"At first, no one wanted to take the responsibility for

the project, but to me, working for the students is my job," says James Tompkins.



Photos by Rashad H. Morgan

Upper left: Students in the New Gym play basketball recreationally after classes are over. The best players have formed intramural teams to participate in the intramural basketball tournament.

Upper right: The swimming pool opened in the Babydome last semester; students take classes here and learn how to swim.

Middle: The New Gym houses a racketball area, a basketball court, and gymnastics equipment.

Lower left: Students participate in a healthy competitive game of racketball.

Lower right: Cheerleaders mainly use the equipment, but it is open to all students.

The fastest woman on earth



By Steven Kennedy
Panther Staff

With Black History Month coming to an end, we as African Americans must not forget what the great ones before us did. Instead of just celebrating our heroes in the shortest month of the year, we should continue the celebration all year long.

Some of the staples in our black history such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Frederick Douglass, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, and many others have been recognized and celebrated for a number of years.

Black women particularly have had a long struggle, especially dating back to the 1960s when it was uncommon for a female to have a job.

In the present day, the average black woman is making just as much money as black men and in some cases more money.

Oprah Winfrey, arguably the most successful and richest talk show host ever, has become not only an icon in the black community, but also to the entire world. But the struggle that was the toughest for black women was no doubt in the sports world. Decades ago sports weren't allowed to even be in a woman's vocabulary.

Years ago sports were thought to be particularly for men. It took a lot of years to get the barrier broken between women and sports. When the barrier was finally broken female athletes

began getting recognized left and right. One of the most recognized female athletes of all-time is no other than Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

Joyner-Kersey, one of the most outstanding female track and field athletes of all-time, was born on March 3, 1962 in East St. Louis, Illinois.

Joyner-Kersey was a very versatile athlete earning a basketball scholarship from the University of California, Los Angeles, coming out of high school.

At UCLA, Jackie would meet her coach and future husband Bob Kersey, who guided her all the way to the top throughout her entire career. She then got her national debut in the 1983 World Championships in Helsinki, Finland, where her older brother, Al Joyner, also competed.

The very next year Jackie along with her brother Al achieved excellence on the highest level at the 1984 Olympic games in Los Angeles, California. Joyner-Kersey won the silver medal in the heptathlon, arguably the toughest event in track and field where athletes compete in as many as seven to eight events in just two days of competition.

Her brother Al captured the gold medal in the triple jump. In 1986 Joyner-Kersey gave up basketball to concentrate totally on track and field. At the 1988 Olympic games in Seoul, South Korea she set an American, Olympic, and world record in the heptathlon scoring 7,291

See Jackie on page 9

Track team lays foundation to become best in SWAC

By Rashad H. Morgan
Sports Editor

The Prairie View men's track and field team has proved that it is among the best in the South Western Athletic Conference.

The Panthers recently competed in the SWAC indoor championships in Baton Rouge, La. Overall the Panthers placed 3rd, behind Grambling State, and Jackson State, with 104 total points. Four Panthers placed 2nd in four different events, sophomore Chris Taylor in the 200, sophomore Jason Okoro in the 400, freshman Jason Mitchell in the high hurdles, and sophomore

Kenneth Wilson in the long jump.

The four by four relay team placed 4th, with members Jack Owens, Sean Celestine, Jason Okoro, and Jason Mitchell. The Panthers basically dominated most of the events.

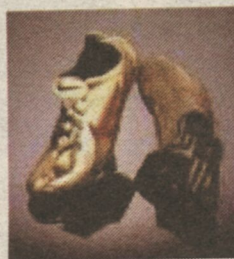


Photo courtesy of APWire

Wilson placed in two separate events, the 1600 and 3000 meters (Brown), and the long jump and triple jump (Wilson).

Shot putters George Hester and Bradley Durham placed 4th and 7th, respectively.

Brown, Mike Miller, Hezekiah Pascal, and Alex Sydney, which consisted of one of the Panthers' relay team came in 4th place.

Other events the Panthers placed in were the triple jump (Dewight Page and Wilson) and the high jump (Glen Cason). The Panthers looked very good throughout the competition, although improvement is needed for the NCAA Indoor Championship, Mar. 11-12, in Fayetteville, Ark.

All of the track meets so far have been out of town, but the Prairie View Relays will be Mar. 25.

Steroid use among college athletes

By Rashad H. Morgan
Sports Editor

There is a lot of steroid talk going on in professional sports, particularly baseball. There is no mystery why athletes use steroids in today's sports. When you play a sport there is so much pressure on you to excel, that the thought of cheating by using a performance enhancer is desirable. Most, if not all, athletes are willing to make themselves better no matter the price. These athletes have a "win at all costs" attitude.

The fact that professional athletes use steroids to jump ahead of the competition in their expertise, gives collegiate athletes more incentive to experiment with an enhancer, because they participate at the university level to become a professional athlete. "If you look at the history of

drug use, anabolic steroids started with the elite athlete, then it went to professional athletes and now college athletes," said Gary Green, former chair of the NCAA

finding new ways to gain a competitive edge and avoid detection of the drug. The NCAA has taken certain actions to promote fair play in competition. It promotes

drug education and mandates that each athletic department conduct a drug and alcohol education program once a semester. The purpose of these programs is to educate the athlete on the risks of taking such drugs.

Regardless of the regulations, anabolic steroid use has not decreased, but has increased in some instances. Reportedly, one percent of college

athletes have used steroids in a six months time frame, and 12 percent said that they would use steroids if they would be able to achieve their athletic potential without testing positive for use.

There have been no reports of Prairie View athletes using performance enhancers.

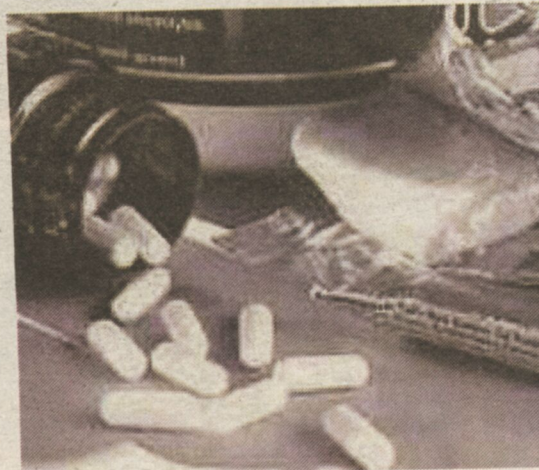


Photo courtesy of APWire

Undetectable anabolic steroids have become popular among professional and collegiate athletes.

Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association's original ban was particularly on anabolic steroids. Since then there has been an overwhelming number of substances banned due to athletes

We can't be that crazy



By Rashad H. Morgan
Sports Editor

Another soon to be legendary figure in the world of sports has tarnished his career on his road to the Hall of Fame. Just so happens that he has to be black.

In a game against Saint Josephs Cheney asked one of his players to foul John Bryant, who was on the opposing team. He wasn't talking about just an ordinary foul, though. He planned on him getting sent home on a hospital bed. The flagrant foul resulted in Bryant leaving the game with a broken arm.

This is not the first time Cheney has been in trouble because of his temper. He has slapped one of his players and he was suspended in 1994 for threatening former Massachusetts coach John Calipari during a postgame conference.

I'll ask the question everybody else wants me to ask, What's wrong with all of these black males in sports entertainment?

We can go back to Daryl Strawberry, Len Bias, Michael Irving, or Mike Tyson. The list can go on and on, most recently Kobe Bryant.

Everybody out there is saying that they're getting ahold to some money and going crazy, but that ain't even the case.

They are just victims of a conspiracy to tarnish the image of the most celebrated figures among African Americans. These men have overcome odds to be among the best in their field of expertise. It's sad that they have become pawns in the "devil's" game of chess. Just joking.

Panthers lose two of three to Texas Southern

By Palmer Perez
Panther Staff

The Prairie View A&M Panthers and the Texas Southern Tigers got together for a three game baseball affair here at Panther field over the



weekend.

Game one was a game that the Panthers would like to immediately put in their distant memory, losing 15-2. Pitcher Wrandal Taylor (2-3) struggled in his outing. Taylor logged four innings pitched, giving up six earned runs on ten hits. Michael Vega lasted four innings as well, giving up three earned runs on four hits. Jermaine Watkins

appeared in the last inning for the Panthers, surrendering three earned runs on one hit.

Game two saw a memorable pitching performance from transfer Matthew Chase. Chase pitched a complete game shutout, only giving up two hits while striking out six batters in a 2-0 victory. Chase logged an outing that will most likely

garner him SWAC pitcher of the week. Chase got all the offensive help he needed on an RBI from freshman Paul Johnson in the second inning. The Panthers added another run on the bottom of the fifth inning on an RBI from third

baseman Bryan Gonzalez. With the victory, Chase ran his record to a perfect record of 3-0.

In the rubber game of the series, both teams showed that they were willing to go that extra mile to win the conference series. With the game scoreless after one inning, the Panthers drew first blood on an RBI double from catcher Brian McGinty in the bottom half of the second inning to take a 1-0 lead. The Tigers got the run back in the next inning on a home run from designated hitter

JD Stewart to tie the game at one run apiece.

Both teams went scoreless until the top of the sixth inning when TSU scored the winning run on a throwing error from PVAMU.

The Panthers (10-9, 1-2) return to action on March 1st in Austin, Texas with a doubleheader against Huston Tillotston.

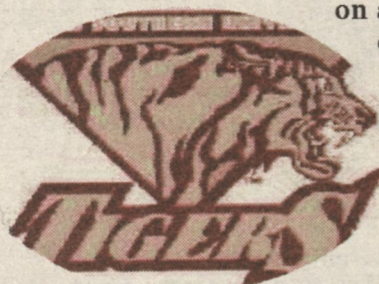


Photo courtesy of APWire

Mike Tyson has been ridiculed for over a decade, for accusations against him which include rape, assault, and insanity.

UCBA

All UCBA games will resume after spring break.

The Intramural basketball has begun in the New Gym. Play will begin tonight.

Box Scores

Basketball

Saturday

Men's

Prairie View 60
Alabama State 77

Women's

Prairie View 41
Alabama State 57

Monday

Men's

Prairie View 53
Alabama A&M 71

Women's

Prairie View 66
Alabama A&M 70

Baseball

Game 1

Prairie View 2
Texas Southern 15

Game 2

Prairie View 2
Texas Southern 0

Game 3

Prairie View 1
Texas Southern 2

Upcoming Games:

Basketball

3/3 vs. Alcorn St.
3/5 vs. Southern

Baseball

3/4-5 @ Arkansas- Pine Bluff

Next Home games:

3/8 vs. UT-Pan American
3/11-12 vs. Grambling State

Softball

3/4-5 vs. Southern

Track & Field

3/5 Jackson State Invitational
3/25 Prairie View Relays

Tennis

3/12 University Texas-Arlington

Jackie from page 8

points.

Joyner-Kersee repeated as champion in the Heptathlon in the 1992 Olympic games in Barcelona, Spain, and came in third in the Long Jump.

In her final Olympic games in 1996 in Atlanta, Georgia, Joyner-Kersee completed her illustrious career by capturing a bronze medal in the Long Jump.

Jackie Joyner-Kersee won many awards during her career including the 1985 Broderick Cup Award (Outstanding Collegiate woman Athlete), James E. Sullivan Award in 1986, Jesse Owens Award (1986, 1987), Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year (1987), and became the first woman to win Sporting News Woman of the Year Award in 1988.

March 2, 2005

The greatest story never told: The Five Percent Nation of Gods and Earths

By Otis Clayborne II
Graphics Editor

One of the fastest growing religions in the world today is the five percent nation of gods and earths known as five percenters.

What is the nation of gods and earths?

It is a splinter group of the Nation of Islam. The phrase "Five Percent" refers to one of the basic tenets of the Five Percent movement: blacks are gods and women are the earths. Members are known as "Five Percenters." Five Percent refers to the belief that only five percent of all people know and teach the truth and ten percent conspire to hide the truth.

What does this nation teach?

1. That black people are the original people of the planet Earth.
2. That black people are the fathers and mothers of civilization.
3. That the science of supreme mathematics is the key to understanding man's relationship to the universe.
4. Islam is a natural way of life, not a religion.
5. That education should be fashioned to enable us to be self-sufficient as a people.
6. That each one should teach one according to their knowledge.

7. That the black man is god and his proper name is ALLAH: Arm, Leg, Leg, Arm, Head.

8. That our children are our link to the future and they must be nurtured, respected, loved, protected and educated.

9. That the unified black family is the vital building block of the nation.

What are their goals?

The five percenters' achievements can be broken down into the following categories: national consciousness, community control, and peace.

1. National Consciousness: National Consciousness is the consciousness of their origin in this world, which is divine. As a nation of people they are the first in existence and all other people are derived from them. It is also the awareness of the unique history and culture of black people and the unequalled contributions they have made to world civilization, by being the fathers and mothers of civilization.
2. Community Control: Community Control of the educational, economic, political, media and health institutions in their community. Their demand for community control flows

naturally out of their science of life, which teaches that they are the supreme being in person and the sole controller of their own destiny.

3. Peace: Peace is the absence of confusion (chaos) and the absence of confusion is order. Law and order is very foundation upon which their "Science of Life" rests. supreme mathematics is the law and order of the universe. This is the science of Islam, which is peace. Peace is supreme understanding between people for the benefit of the whole. This is their ultimate goal.

What is Supreme Mathematics?

Supreme mathematics is the basis of the five percenters' teachings. They are the ten principles that correspond to the twenty six letters that they Allah (their founder) and Justice (his close friend) created together. With supreme mathematics



they teach their youth how to break down and form profound relationships between significant experiences within life.

Since their beginnings in 1963, the Five Percent Nation of gods and earths has grown enormously. Today, you can hear many contemporary rap and neo soul artist make direct reference or strong allusion to Five Percenter ideology. These artists include Talib Kweli, Mos Def, the whole Wu Tang Clan, Erykah Badu, India Arie, and others.

References:
www.apologeticsindex.org
www.thetalkingdrum.com
Pastor G. Craig Lewis (exministries.com)

Quotes from famous five percenters

"...why do I call myself god when i'm speaking? people always ask me this when i'm teaching.....you gotta understand, kris don't exist. the only existence is god conscienceness. and god conscienceness is what exists as kris."

KRS-ONE

Knowledge Reigns Supreme

"Them devils wishing they could send me back to Mogadishu. . . . pray tell me when the revolution will begin; I turn on my TV; I check out Farrakhan on CNN. . . . I'm forming the cipher; fly 'peace' to the five Percenter. . . . I love PE [Public Enemy]; they kept me conscious of what I was saying; Afrika Bambaataa, Poor Righteous Teacher[s], got within myself so it made me a five Percenter."

Lauryn Hill

Vocab-Hip-Hop Remix

"...glory be to the father
glory be to the son (glory be to the holy one)
glory be to the holy one
the holder of creation whoi
as jah was in the beginning is
now and forever shall be
jah world
jah world without end whoi
so we heed our god king sella
ie i, jahova god, jah rastafari
who is seated in zion and reigneth
in the hearts of
in the hearts of all flesh."
Wu Tang Clan
Jah World

African-American Suicide Rates: Third Leading Cause of Death

By Brandy Black
Panther Staff

Suicide is the ninth leading cause of death in the United States and the third after African-Americans, aside from homicide and cancer.

However, Caucasians are twice as likely to commit suicide as blacks.

On Feb. 2, R&B singer Houston, who had the hit song *I Like That* attempted to commit suicide in London, by trying to jump out a thirteen floor window and gouging out an eye.

Naja Taupin, and aspiring boxer, chosen to be on NBC's upcoming reality show *The Contender* committed suicide on Valentines day by shooting himself in he head. Suicide is the third leading cause of death among African-American men ranging from age 15 through 24.

The suicide rate doubled among black men to an estimate of eight deaths per 100,000 people between 1998 and 1995. Since 1998, the suicide rates for men (16 percent) have decreased, while it has remained the same for females.

Although females are

more likely to think about it, males are more likely to complete suicide. Among African-Americans, 65 percent of all suicide cases among those 15 through 24 years old were by firearms. Only nine percent of African-Americans find suicide acceptable compared to 28 percent of whites. As a result of its non-acceptance, African-Americans usually don't talk about it.

There are many myths about why African-Americans don't commit suicide, including: it only happens to middle-class Caucasians, African-Americans have too much pride to commit suicide, or that blacks never feel depressed.

Depression is one of the first signs of a suicidal person, as well as irritability, and changes in appetite and sleeping habits. Almost 60 percent of all African-Americans don't consider depression a mental illness.

Fortunately for blacks, they show the lowest risk of suicides, other than Hispanics. African-American suicides may come off as a joke, but anything dealing with death is serious.

Guess who: the STD epidemic

By Alanna Jones
Panther Staff

Students have had the education of sexually transmitted diseases pounded in their heads since junior high, yet a lot of students have not taken heed to the hard core facts of this detriment. The medical library of Dr. Joseph

keep her identity confidential confesses: "I thought when someone contracted an STD they would see immediate affects on their body. I did not find out that I had herpes until my boyfriend saw it on his body, got tested, and was diagnosed with herpes. I got scared because I had never seen any evidence of an STD on my body, so I got tested

than Caucasians. African Americans are 40 times more likely than Caucasians to develop gonorrhea, and as much as three times more likely to acquire genital herpes."

"Besides having to live with the reality of knowing there's not a cure for me, I have to deal with depression, taking medication, and the possibility of never be-



According to statistics, one out of four of these people has a STD.

F. Smith states that "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported 85 percent of the most prevalent infectious diseases in the U.S. are STDs. One in four occur in ages 16 and 19, and almost 65 percent of all infections affect people under the age of 25."

Why should PV students be worried about this epidemic called STDs? A current PV student who wishes to

also. Although, to this day, I have never had an outbreak, I can still pass herpes on to someone else. For the rest of my life I have to live with the guilt of not knowing if I am the one who passed it on to him."

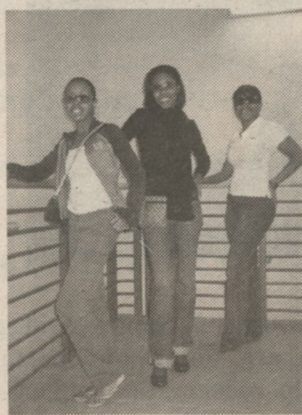
The Center for Disease Control also reports that "women are more likely to contract an STD than men. Syphilis is 60 times higher among African Americans

ing able to find a significant other that will understand my condition," states the anonymous student. Other long-term consequences of STDs is that the CDC reports are birth defects, infertility, brain damage, blindness, cancer, heart disease, and death.

If treated early, the prognosis for STD's caused by bacteria such as gonorrhea and syphilis is usually good and can be cured. On the other hand, with viral diseases such as genital herpes and genital warts, have no cure and will need long-term treatment to suppress outbreaks.

Abstinence is the best way to prevent the contraction of any STD. Those who live an active sex life must use protection, get tested regularly, get educated, and be smart.

PICK OF THE WEEK



What is it?
PRIDE

Where do you get it?

Through self respect and self love

How much does it cost?

FREE

RUB A DUB WASHATERIA

1102 LAFAYETTE-HEMPSTEAD

(corner of 1887 and Lafayette)

979.826.6014

7 days a week
(even holidays)

Open: 7 a.m.
Last Wash: 8 p.m.

Attendant on duty

Wash - Dry - Fold Service Available

PV True Life... I'm Greek (Pt. I)

There are nine active Greek organizations on campus: Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Iota Phi Theta. The Panther would like to inform readers how students can go to class, socialize, be active members of an organization, and hold a job. Therefore, each week the Panther will showcase a member of each of the nine active Greek organizations on campus.

By Latisha Johnson-Wallace
Panther Staff

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was established on a Friday evening, on Nov. 17, 1911 by three Howard University undergraduate students, Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and Frank Coleman. The initials of the Greek phrase

him to be an Omega Powell said, "it means being scholarly, a trendsetter, serve the community and to stay sincere to self."

Powell's favorite aspect of Greek life is "the role I play within the college lifestyle."

"The frat life for

me has been a lateral move (aka. popular). I've always been social, love to have fun, and to help people," says Powell.

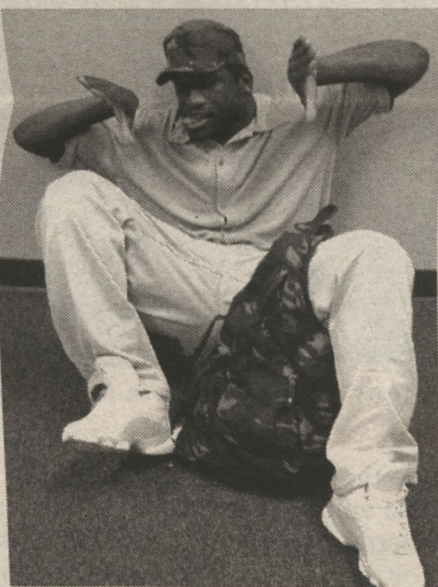


Photo by Ous Clayborne II

Johnnie Powell, student and member of Omega Psi Phi.

"friendship is essential to the soul," brought about the name Omega Psi Phi. Manhood, scholarship, perseverance and uplift are adopted as the cardinal principles.

This week the Panther interviewed Johnnie W. Powell III, representing the Rho Theta chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Powell is a senior computer engineering major from Newton, Texas. When asked what it means to

Powell aspires to be within the corporate realm at the start of the summer, all while juggling the responsibility of being a football player. He also plans to continue his education in graduate school. Powell has advice for the student body here at PV, "focus on what matters and give it everything you've got."

Powell concluded that he joined the Omega because "I always wanted to be the best, so I joined the best."

The off campus alternative

By Anterria Brown
Panther Staff

With the cost of living on campus steadily increasing and an abundance of rules and regulations to abide by, many students see living off campus as an attractive alternative.

For the past several years the cost of living on campus has risen, and many feel that the increase cannot be justified.

Sophomore Whitney Walker said, "For the past two years that I've lived on campus rent has increased and the Village has nothing to show for it. We still have the same old problems and no resolutions. I have encountered so many problems living in the Village that next semester I have made plans to move elsewhere."

Students who re-

side on campus must also comply with many rules and regulations, as outlined in their leases with American Campus Communities. Residents are restricted on what they are allowed to have in their rooms and visitation, just to name a few.

Because of these issues associated with living on the yard, the off campus alternative has become extremely popular with Prairie View students. Recently, several apartment complexes, duplexes, and town homes have been built in surrounding communities just minutes away from Prairie View such as Waller, Hempstead, and other nearby cities.

Junior Stephanie Rufus, who is a commuter, said, "I enjoy living off campus because it offers a huge sense of freedom. I don't have rules to follow like when I lived in University

Village, and the rent in my apartment complex doesn't increase every semester."

While the off campus option may offer students more freedom than those living on campus, on campus residents enjoy a wide array of services that commuters do not, campus residents also have access to programs and activities offered by University Village.

Senior Erica Macintosh said, "The decision to live on or off campus depends on the individual student. I would strongly recommend that freshmen students live in University College because it helps in the transition from high school to college. When a student is a sophomore living on campus it is good because they get to experience living in University Village. However, the older a student gets, the more likely they are to want to move off campus."

Black leaders discuss contract with black America

By Charles Odum
Associated Press

LITHONIA, Ga. (AP) — Black leaders debated Saturday how to develop a checklist of political priorities that could be submitted to politicians seeking support from black voters.

Tavis Smiley, the PBS late-night talk show host, asked about 40 leaders to consider whether a checklist could further the black American political agenda. He initially offered the checklist, or "contract," as a political sword, but others said it would be better used as a self-improvement tool for black Americans.

"The next time you come calling on our vote, you come correct on the contract or you don't come at all," Smiley said at the sixth annual State of the Black Union Symposium, which

also included the Rev. Al Sharpton and Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan.

"Black folk have always been the conscience of

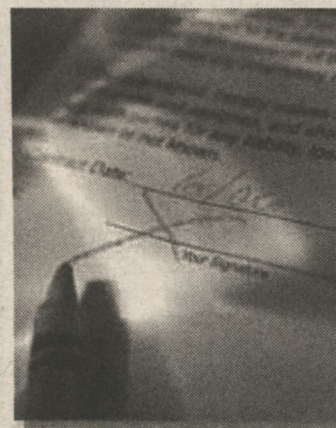
the list, which could include as many as 10 priorities.

Farrakhan said politicians and political parties could not be trusted to fulfill a contract. He said any checklist should be used to mobilize black Americans.

"Power concedes nothing without a demand, but power won't even concede to a demand if it comes from a weak constituency," Farrakhan said.

The Rev. Joseph Lowery, former president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, suggested any contract be called a covenant. "We've got to recapture that spirituality; that's our strength," Lowery said.

Other panels at the symposium included former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Princeton professor Cornel West, former Detroit mayor Dennis Wayne Archer and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.



this country," Smiley said. "We are doing our part to help redeem the soul of America ... When we make black America better, we make all of America better."

There was no consensus on how the contract would be used. More meetings will be held to develop

March 2, 2005

The Panther

campus



superstar

SHAKELA "KEKE" SHIELDS

Age-22
Hometown-Dallas "Oak Cliff", TX
Major-Accounting
Classification-Senior

Q. Why do you call yourself Miss Keke-The Queen of Krunk?

A. Because there's a lot of Kekes. I feel like I have the upper hand, so I put Miss in front of Keke. As far as "The Queen of Krunk," the way I vibe off of Lil Jon is the same reaction I get from my audience. I can put a little more flavor into the Krunk Juice as a female. So holla at 'cha girl, BME Records.

Q. Are your lyrics about personal experiences?

A. They're about personal experiences, mixed emotions, and the people we all love: haters.

Q. Who inspires you?

A. My brother on my mama side because he's my best friend and my judge among judges.

Q. What CDs are in your car/stereo now?

A. A bunch of bootlegs, but don't tell nobody. Crunk Juice, Sex'n after the dark, Twista, and me.

Q. Have you collaborated with other artists?

A. Yeah, a lot of Texas artists such as Super Dave, OE da Thriller, Mixed Breed, Chazz, J-Stone, and Brandy. I'm currently working with Mr. Pookie, Lil' Soc, A. Russ, Daphne, etc.

Q. Do you participate in talent shows or other events on campus?

A. I participated in Wreck da Mic Wednesday on Hump Day, won 2nd place in Spring Fest '04 and 1st place in SIFE's hip hop.

Q. Have you ever performed professionally?

A. I opened up for Wreck Shop Records at the Palm Beach Club in Downtown Dallas. I did a show at Club Nairobi, Tom Cats, and Erykah Badu's Black Forest Theater in Dallas.

Q. What songs do you like best on your CD?

A. All of them between the intro and the outro because I know all the words.

Q. When can we expect your CD to be out?

A. Right now, I'm still doing mixtapes. I say my CD should be out between late March and early April.

By Kristina Rogers

Hitch: The cure for the common romantic comedy

By Kristina Rogers
Panther Staff

You've seen him as a rough LAPD officer in *Bad Boys II*, a sexy piece of eye candy defending planet Earth in *Men in Black I & II*, and numerous other movies.

You remember him as the goofy teenager on *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*. Will Smith along with co-stars Eva Mendes (*Training Day*), Kevin James (*Everybody Loves Raymond*), Adam Arkin (*The West Wing*), Michael Rapaport (*Boston Public*) and Amber Valletta (*What Lies Beneath*) reveal the beauty of loving someone and being loved by someone in the new movie *Hitch*. This ultimate romantic comedy is great for a girls night out, or spending quality time with your significant other.

Alex Hitchens (Smith) is New York's

date doctor. Hitch sets up appointments with men who are in need of guidance to secure the hearts of the women they love. Hitch plans the first three dates to get the men on the right track. Hitch eats, drinks, breathes, and lives to help men who would otherwise go unnoticed, become the main attraction of their crush. Hitch coaches each man according to the characteristics of the woman he is trying to pursue.

Albert Brenneman (James) is a clumsy, quiet guy with an overwhelming

attraction to Allegra Cole (Valletta) who is a client at the firm where he works. Hitch helps Brenneman and others reach a level of confidence needed to develop a healthy romantic relationship. However, Hitch doesn't take his own advice and prefers the bachelor lifestyle. Mendes plays Sara Melas, a gossip columnist for *The New York Standard* and Hitch's love interest. Rapaport plays Ben, Hitch's best friend who, is married, and is about to become a father.



OPPORTUNITIES

Come Join the Prairie View A&M University
Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Unit



NROTC Scholarship Requirements

Do you have a Desire to Serve?

Are you looking for more than the average job?

Are you interested in scholarship opportunities
and a guaranteed job after graduation?

Can you meet the Physical Requirements?

What We Pay

Tuition, fees, \$300/sem for books

Monthly stipend between \$250-\$400 mth.



Contact our recruiter at (936) 857-2310/2311 or navy_rotc@pvamu.edu

Come visit the Naval ROTC Building on campus to see if the Navy or the Marine Corps is right for you.

Event: *Diary of a Mad Black Woman*

Arthrayia Love

Content:



Cast:



Message:



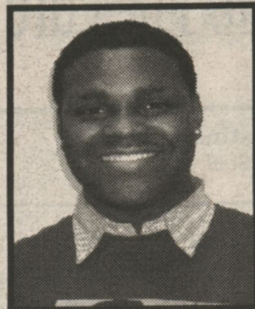
Comedy:



Overall:



A Diary of a Mad Black Woman is phenomenal. I am so proud that Tyler Perry didn't let Hollywood corrupt his outlook on having his play/movie based around God. This is a must see movie!

THE
REVIEW

Trason Smith

Content:



Cast:



Message:



Comedy:



Overall:



Spiritually inspirational! Tyler Perry completed the transformation from the stage to the silver screen, solidifying his essence in black history, and formulating an instant classic.



Panther Poetry Lounge

I'm Not Lonely
By Nikki Giovanni

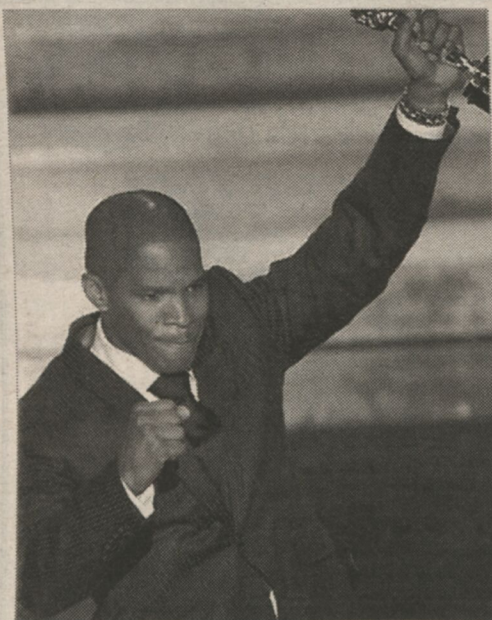
i'm not lonely
sleeping all alone
you think i'm scared
but i'm a big girl
i don't cry
or anything
i have a great
big bed
to roll around
in and lots of space
and i don't dream
bad dreams
like i used
to have that you
were leaving me
anymore
now that you're gone
i don't dream
and no matter
what you think
i'm not lonely
sleeping
all alone



1. What Greek organizations sat inside the Baby Dome when they should have been giving campus tours for Pantherland Day?
2. Can the PALS receive their community service hours?
3. When did KKPsi probate for fall 04?
4. Don't you just miss the Kappas?
5. When will they ever bring in a new line?
6. What happened to all the KKIs, AAIs, and Omega Gems?
7. Do you think people finally came to their senses and realized it's not worth it?
8. Shouldn't the SGRhos & the Iotas have been Frat & Soror?
9. Why is Phase III getting so expensive?
10. Who was the boy @ the Alpha Kappacino who said he was a strong black woman?
11. How many girls who were at the Delta Rush were still at the Alpha Kappacino trying to be an AKA?
12. Why does Prairie View ask for students' opinions when they do not respect our opinions?
13. Are they just trying to amuse us?
14. When did the AKAs get a new banner?
15. Is it paper?
16. Why do people support their intramural teams more than PV's basketball team?
17. Why did the MSC put up a false advertisement for late dinner from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.?
18. Did they not know the Panther staff was hungry?
19. Which PAL can fit four saltine crackers in his gap?
20. What do you think?

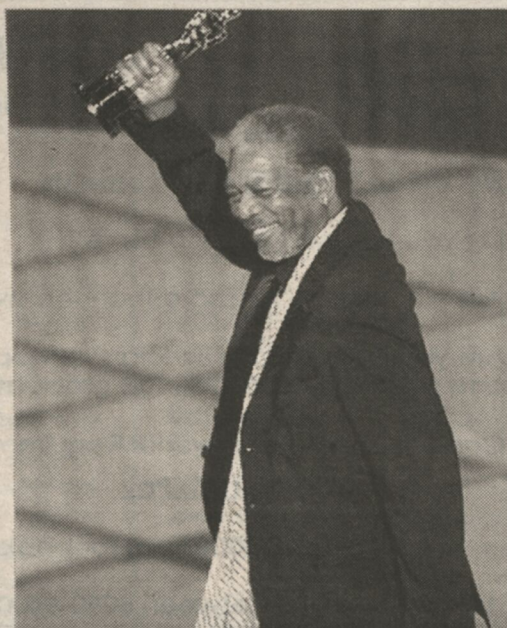
This is for **entertainment only**. The questions submitted are not the views of **The Panther**. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 219 MSC or e-mail us at panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of **The Panther**.

And the winner is...



Jaime Fox (left) won the Oscar for best actor for "Ray." Morgan Freeman took home the Oscar for best supporting actor for the film "Million Dollar Baby."

Photo courtesy www.oscars.com



Calendar/Events

15

March 2, 2005

The Panther

March 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: Church @JPAFC 10:45 a.m. Every Sunday: Poetry Night@ Pae- sanos 7 p.m. 13th: Zeta Phi Beta Found- ers Day Program @ MSC 1 p.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha Founders Day Pro- gram @ HBT 3 p.m. 20th: Karnation Kourt Founders Day Pro- gram @ JPAFC 6:45 p.m.	13th: Alpha Lambda Omega Prayer Links @ MSC 11 a.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha Disease Seminar @ NSB 7:08 p.m. 21st: Alpha Phi Alpha "What about Alpha?" @ Banks 7:06 p.m.	Every Tuesday: Gamma Phi Delta Bible Study @ JPAFC 7 p.m.-9 p.m. 15 th: CAB Fun Flicks II @ MSC 2 p.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha Social @ Student Park 5:08 p.m. Karnation Kourt "The real story of KKI" @ Banks 6:45 p.m. Church of Christ Spiritual Seminar @ Delco 7 p.m. 22nd: Iota Program @ Delco 7:05 p.m.	Every Wednesday: CAB Hump Day on the Hill @ MSC 12 p.m. 2nd: UC Black History 3rd Annual Talent Show @ MSC 5 p.m. Gamma Sigma Sigma "A Lady of GSS" @ NSB 6 p.m. Navy Flight Simula- tor @ MSC 12 p.m. 16th: NAACP Membership Drive @ MSC 11:30 a.m. Zeta Phi Beta Semi- nar @ Library 7:20 p.m.	Every Thursday: Club Miami at Grass- hopper (506 Main) @ FREE all night 3rd: Navy/Marine Heli- copters @ HBT 12 p.m. 17th: Alpha Kappa Alpha "Beauty Tips" @ NSCI 7 p.m. 24th: Alpha Phi Alpha "Project Alpha Semi- nar" @ Banks 7:06 p.m.	4h: The Official Black Heritage Day Con- cert & Afterparty (Hosted by Alicia Keys with John Leg- end in concert) @ HUSH (15625 Katy Freeway) 8 p.m. 11th: Phi Beta Sigma (Ep- silon Nu) Fade Ta Blue Party @ HUSH 9 p.m.	Every Saturday Mahogany Soul Suite @ Clarks (314 Main) 9 p.m. 5th: TX Invitational Honda Campus All- star Challenge@ MSC 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tau Beta Sigma "Marching Storm Day on the Hill" @ 9 a.m. 8th: CAB Zydeco Festival @ MSC 2 p.m.

Bill's Seafood Kitchen
203 Bremond (Exit 1488)
(979) 826-3568

\$2.99

3 pc Whiting & Fries
10 pc Catfish Nuggets & Fries
8 Wings & Fries
1 Porkchop & Fries

\$3.99

5 pc Wings, 6 pc Catfish
Nuggets, & Fries

\$4.99

15 Shrimp & Fries
3 pc Drum & Fries
6 Shrimp, 1 piece Catfish & Fries

*** ASK FOR SPECIALS ***

P.V. Student Housing

Now Leasing

3 Bedroom Homes

Furnished/Unfurnished
Washer/Dryer included
Cable Available

24687 Richards Rd.
PEAK REALTY
979-921-9530



The Answers

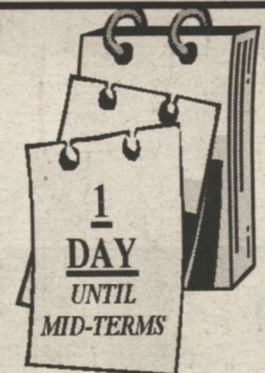
Weekly Update for Freshmen

STUDY, STUDY, STUDY

You must have had a grade of 'C' (OR 'S') or better
in your developmental class (es) at mid-terms to be
able to pre-register for summer or fall 2005.

Developmental Classes in the 200 level are NOT the final class in the sequence for most students.

Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick TASP/THEA testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.



- UC Bldg #41 hosted a seminar, "What is Your Purpose?" Mr. Don Byars, the Associate Provost for Student Enrollment, was the keynote speaker. Ms. Melanie Carreathers also shared her experiences as a Disney intern. The audience packed the UC theater for the presentation and entertainment by Mr. and Ms. UC Mr. Jermonte Henderson and Ms. Regina Bachus.
- The UCBA March Madness Tournament is just around the corner. Bldg #39 enters as the first seed for women's buildings and Bldg #38 is the first seeded male Bldg., but Bldgs #44 and #36 are waiting in the wings as second seeds to upset the apple cart!!

Raise from page 1

as scholarships/ financial aid, advising, student activities and maintain education in general/ academics, the tuition will have to be raised another \$27.50. Otherwise, the money will have to come from these programs which are primarily for students to pay for any debt service.

Prairie View's governmental relations officer, Frank Jackson, explained to students how the increase in fees would affect students and the university itself.

"I want students to know about the issues on this campus that we need to address, such as the \$17 million that is being cut from the university's budget," said Jackson. "If this were to happen, student fees will have to be increased by \$27 per semester credit hour, in addition to a \$17 per semester credit hour increase, and we

just cannot let that happen."

Williams assures students by stating, "Only if given proper authorization from the Board of Regents in Austin to raise tuition higher than \$17, will we do so. We are trying everything in our power to stop that from happening because PV will then be one of the most expensive schools in the state."

At the end of May, after all the debt is settled, Williams hopes the state legislature will come through with the money. If the money is not funded it is a possibility that when students come back to school in the fall tuition will be up \$27.50. "If there is an increase of \$27.50, there is a possibility of waiting until spring 2005. That only depends on when debt service is received and on interest rates."

Williams also wants to assure students that any increase is for the betterment of PV as a whole. Williams says President George C. Wright's biggest contribution while he is at PV is to "enhance the value of the degree earned," and to increase the value of your degree and PV's reputation for alumni as well as future graduates.

G O T
NEWS?

Read *The Panther*
Every Wednesday
www.pvpanther.com

Recruitment from page 1

was the primary informative addition to the activity.

Prospective student Ashlee McDow said, "It was all a good experience, but the financial aid seminar was really good. It gave a lot of information, and answered many questions."

The Charles Gilpin Players performed an academic theatrical presentation that was amusing yet full of truths. "This activity is the university's opportunity to share our campus but also dispel myths about the university," said Owens. Many student organizations assisted in campus tours for the day.

"When planning this event we made provisions for everyone," said Crawford. The event was appealing to all ethnic groups. Amparo Navarette, the university's special

population coordinator, welcomed all in attendance in Spanish.

Attendees were provided with a free lunch, hosted by Sodexho, in the parking lot of the MSC.

Although it rained and temperatures were low, the event was a huge success and applauded by volunteers and prospective students.

"I found it to be well organized and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves," said sophomore criminal justice club member Krystal Jackson.

**The Panther will
publish again on
March 16.**

PURPLE HAZE

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

BY BENNIE REYNOLDS

UNIVERSITY
VILLAGE



Black History Showcase



The University Village concluded its Black History Month Celebration with the Black History Showcase featuring "Escape to Freedom" an interpretation of the life and times of Harriet Tubman! Ms. Waddy Thibodeaux brought her award winning show to the MSC with supporting roles from the Community Assistants. The show also featured the sounds of the BSM and DJ Mr. Rogers. A small reception followed featuring memorabilia and artwork from the Buffalo Soldier's exhibit. Thank you to all who attended!!



UP-COMING PROGRAMS IN UV!

KAPLAN PRACTICE TEST

If you are interested in taking a free practice exam for graduate or professional school please sign up in the Phase I Business Office. The test is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 2 in the Phase III Student Center.

KARAOKE NIGHT

Karaoke Night will be held next Wednesday (March 17th) in the Phase III Student Center. All Phase III residents are invited to attend!! Refreshments will be served and prizes will be given for the best singers and worst singers!!

Fall & Summer Applications

University Village



Your FALL 2005 room awaits!

Pick up an application and turn it in as soon as possible. Turn in your application by March 4, 2005 and you will be entered into a drawing to win a **FLAT SCREEN TV!!**

University Village

Pick up your application today in
Phase I Clubhouse!
Summer 2005

**First 130 Summer Applicants
will receive a 2BR for the summer.**



Important Notes

Leasing:

- Fall 2005-2006 & Summer 2005 Applications are here!

Accounting

- Current Residents**, your next installment for the Spring semester was due March 1, 2005. Please pay today to avoid late fees after the 5th.
- No personal checks are accepted for past due payments.
- The deadline for paying all electricity bills is March 10, 2005.

Lost and Found

- The University Village has some lost and found items at the Business Office. If you have lost your ID or keys please check at Phase I Business Office.